

REMARKS

Claims 26-50 are pending in the present application. Claims 40-50 have been withdrawn from consideration and Claims 26-39 have been rejected. Claim 34 was amended to correct an alleged indefiniteness that caused a rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 26-39 have been amended and Claims 51-62 have been added to more clearly recite the present invention.

Claims 26- 39 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5, 948,040 (DeLorme) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,960,411 (Hartman) and U.S. Patent No. 4,775,935 (Yourick).

The present invention provides a service for a traveler to obtain items, such as clothing and personal care articles, which would normally be packed in one's luggage. These items are obtained through an order placed prior to the start of the trip with providers of such items able to deliver them to the traveler at one or more destinations, such as hotels, during the traveler's trip and within a provided time frame.

The term used to describe such an arrangement is VIRTUAL LUGGAGE. Far from indicating the common digital data, this term is used in the present specification to describe a traveler traveling to a destination without packing at home and taking physical luggage along. Instead, the traveler uses a computer to order, i.e., buy, rent, and/or borrow all the items necessary for the trip. The ordered items are then delivered to the traveler's destination at traveler appointed time.

The present invention may well be implemented with the participation of common traveler destinations, e.g., hotels, and the items will be delivered to the traveler's room and unpacked in anticipation of the traveler's arrival. Provision can easily be made to accommodate changes in the delivery of the items when the traveler's plans change.

DeLorme describes delivering travel materials, e.g., guides, to the traveler's computer. Similarly, Yourick and Hartmann (the Amazon "one-click" patent) focused entirely on placing

orders and delivery of digital documents over the Internet. DeLorme, Yourick, Hartmann, or any combination thereof, do not teach, describe, or suggest "describing in one or more databases accessible via a network, each of the plurality of destinations to which the user can travel, each of the plurality of participating suppliers at each of said destinations, and items offered by said suppliers at each of said destinations" or

"generating at least one list of said selected items picked from the plurality of items according to user's preferences, said user's time frame, availability of said items, and ability of a supplier to deliver said items to said destination within said user's time frame", as recited in amended Claim 26 of the present invention.

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 27-39 and 51-62, it is submitted that they overcome the prior art by virtue of their dependencies on independent Claim 26. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 26-39 and new Claims 51-62 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 26-39 and 51-62 is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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